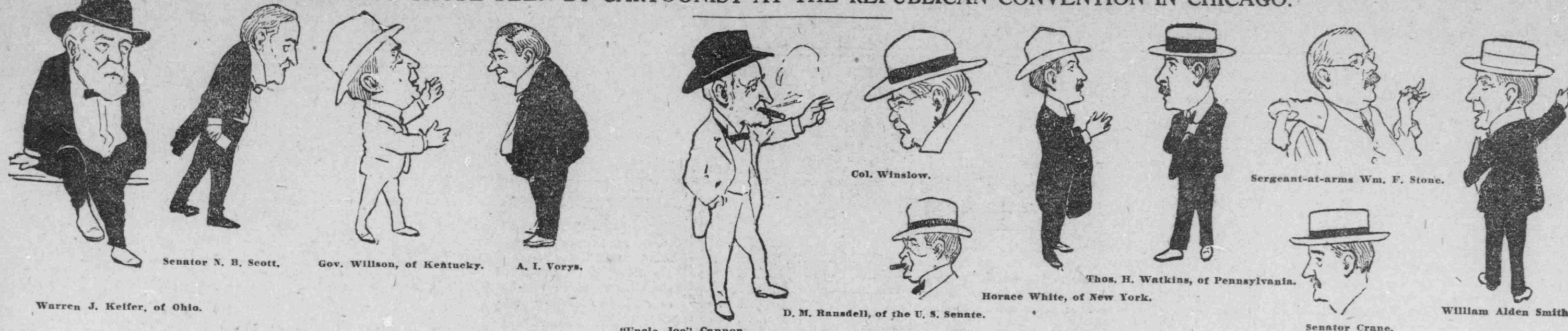


SOME OF THOSE SEEN BY CARTOONIST AT THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION IN CHICAGO.



PLATFORM UPON WHICH REPUBLICANS WILL DO BATTLE

Once more the Republican party, in national convention assembled, submits its cause to the people. This great historic organization, that destroyed slavery, preserved the Union, expunged the national domain, established a sound financial system, developed the industries and resources of the country, and gave to the nation her seat of honor in the councils of the world, now meets the new problems of government with the same courage and capacity with which it solved the old.

Roosevelt Leadership.

In this, the greatest era of American advancement, the Republican party has reached its highest service under the leadership of Theodore Roosevelt. His administration is an epoch in American history. In no other period since national sovereignty was won under Washington, or preserved under Lincoln, has there been such mighty progress in those ideals of government which make for justice, equality, and fair dealing among men.

The highest aspirations of the American people have found a voice. Their most exalted servant represents the best aims and noblest purposes of all his countrymen. American manhood has been lifted to a nobler sense of duty and obligation. Conscience and courage in public station and higher standards of right and wrong in private life have become cardinal principles of political faith; capital and labor laws have been brought into closer relations of confidence and interdependence, and the abuse of wealth, the tyranny of power, and all the evils of privilege and favoritism have been put to rest by the simple, manly virtues of justice and fair play.

The great accomplishments of President Roosevelt have been, first and foremost, a brave and impartial enforcement of the law; of the prosecution of illegal trusts and monopolies; the exposure and punishment of evildoers in the public service; the more effective regulation of the rates and service of the great transportation lines; the complete overthrow of the trusts and discriminations; the arbitration of labor disputes; the amelioration of the condition of wage workers everywhere; the conservation of the natural resources of the country; the forward step in the improvement of the inland waterways; and always the earnest support and defense of every wholesome safeguard which has made more secure the guarantees of life, liberty, and property.

These are the achievements that will make for Theodore Roosevelt his place in history, but more than all else the great things he has done will be an inspiration to those who have yet greater things to do. We declare our unflinching adherence to the policies thus inaugurated, and pledge their continuance under a Republican administration of the government.

World's Richest Nation.

Under the guidance of Republican principles the American people have become the richest nation in the world. Our wealth to-day exceeds that of England and all her colonies, and that of France and Germany combined. When the Republican party was born the total wealth of the country was \$16,000,000,000. It has leaped to \$110,000,000,000 in a generation, while Great Britain has gathered but \$60,000,000,000 in 500 years. The United States now owns one-fourth of the world's wealth and makes one-third of all modern manufactured products. In the great necessities of civilization, such as coal, the motive power of all activity; iron, the chief basis of all industry; cotton, the staple foundation of all fabrics; wheat, corn, and all the agricultural products that feed mankind, America's supremacy is undisputed. And yet her great natural wealth has been scarcely touched. We have a vast domain of 3,699,000 square miles, literally bursting with latent treasure, still waiting the magic of capital and industry to be converted to the practical uses of mankind; a country rich in soil and climate, in the unhampered energy of its rivers and in all the varied products of the field, the forest, and the factory. With gratitude for God's bounty, with pride in the splendid progress of the past, and with confidence in the plenty and prosperity of the future, the Republican party declares for the principle that in the development and enjoyment of wealth so great and blessings so benign there shall be equal opportunity for all.

Business Basis Sound.

Nothing so clearly demonstrates the sound basis upon which our commercial, industrial, and agricultural interests are founded, and the necessity of promoting their continued welfare through the operation of Republican policies, as the recent safe passage of the American people through a financial disturbance which, if appearing in the midst of Democratic rule or the menace of it, might have equalled the familiar Democratic panics of the past. We congratulate the people upon this renewed evidence of American supremacy, and hail with confidence the signs now manifest of a complete restoration of business prosperity in all lines of trade, commerce, and manufacturing.

Since the election of William McKinley, in 1896, the people of this country have felt under the wisdom of trusting to the Republican party, through decisive majorities, the control and direction of national legislation. The many wise and progressive measures adopted at recent sessions of Congress have demonstrated the patriotic resolve of Republican leadership in the legislative department to keep step in the forward march toward better government.

Notwithstanding the indelible filibustering of a Democratic minority in the House of Representatives during the last session, many wholesome and progressive laws were enacted, and we especially commend the passage of the emergency currency bill, the appointment of the national monetary commission, the employers' and government liability laws, the measures for the greater efficiency of the army and navy, the widows' pension bill, the child labor law for the District of Columbia, the new statutes for the safety of railroad engineers and firemen, and many other acts conserving the public welfare.

REPUBLICAN PLEDGES FOR THE FUTURE.

The Tariff.

The Republican party declares unequivocally for a revision of the tariff by a special session of Congress immediately following the inauguration of the next President, and commends the steps already taken to this end in the work assigned to the appropriate committees of Congress which are now investigating the operation and effect of existing schedules. In all tariff legislation the true principle of protection is best maintained by the imposition of such duties as will equal the difference between the cost of production at home and abroad, together with a reasonable profit to American industry. We favor the establishment of maximum and minimum rates, to be administered by the President, under limitations fixed in the law, the maximum to be available to meet discriminations by foreign countries against American goods entering their markets, and the minimum to represent the normal measure of protection at home; the aim and purpose of the Republican policy being not only to preserve, without excessive duties, that security against foreign competition which American manufacturers, farmers, and producers are entitled, but also to maintain the high standard of living of the wage earners of this country, who are the most direct beneficiaries of the protective system. Between the United States and the Philippines, we believe in a free interchange of products with such limitations as to sugar and tobacco as will afford adequate protection to domestic interests.

The Currency.

We approve the emergency measure adopted by the government during the recent financial disturbance, and especially commend the passage by Congress at the last session of the law designed to protect the country from a repetition of such stringency. The Republican party is committed to the development of a permanent currency system, responding to our greater needs, and the appointment of the national monetary commission by the present Congress, which will impartially investigate all proposed methods, insure the early realization of this purpose. The present currency laws have fully justified their adoption, but an expanding commerce, a marvelous growth in wealth and population, multiplying the centers of distribution, increasing the demand for the movement of crops in the West and South, and entailing periodic changes in monetary conditions disclose

uses, as well as the additional protection secured for engineers and firemen; the reduction in the hours of labor of trainmen and railroad telegraphers; the successful exercise of the powers of mediation and arbitration between interstate railroads and their employees, and the law making a beginning in the policy of compensation for injured employees of the government are among the most commendable accomplishments of the present administration. But there is further work in this direction yet to be done, and the Republican party pledges its continued devotion to every cause that makes for safety and the betterment of conditions among those whose labor contributes so much to the progress and welfare of the country.

Wage Earners Generally.

The same wise policy which has induced the Republican party to maintain protection to American labor, to establish an eight-hour day in the construction of all public works, to increase the list of employees who shall have preferred claims for wages under the bankruptcy laws, to adopt a child-labor statute for the District of Columbia, to direct an investigation into the condition of working women and children, and later of employees of telephone and telegraph companies engaged in interstate business; to appropriate \$150,000 at the recent session of Congress in order to secure a thorough inquiry into the causes of catastrophes and loss of life in the mines, and to amend and strengthen the law prohibiting the importation of contract labor will be pursued in every legitimate direction toward Federal authority to enlighten the burdens and increase the opportunities for happiness and advancement of all who toil. The Republican party recognizes the special needs of wage-workers generally, for their well-being means the well-being of all. But more important than all other considerations is that of good citizenship, and we especially stand for the needs of every American, whatever his occupation, in his capacity as a self-respecting citizen.

Court Procedure.

The Republican party will uphold at all times the authority and integrity of the courts, State and Federal, and will ever insist that their powers to enforce their process and to protect life, liberty, and property shall be preserved inviolate. We believe, however, that the rules of procedure in the Federal courts, with respect to the issuance of the writ of injunction, should be more accurately defined by statute and that no injunction or temporary restraining order should be issued without notice, except where irreparable injury would result from delay, in which case a speedy hearing thereafter should be granted.

Among those whose welfare is as vital to the welfare of the whole country as is that of the wage earner is the American farmer. The prosperity of the country rests peculiarly upon the prosperity of agriculture. The Republican party during the last twelve years has accomplished extraordinary work in bringing the resources of the national government to the aid of the farmer, not only in advancing agriculture itself, but in increasing the conveniences of rural life. Free rural mail delivery has been established; it now reaches millions of our citizens, and we favor its extension until every community in the land receives the full benefits of the postal service. We recognize the social and economic advantages of good country roads, maintained more and more largely at public expense, and less and less at the expense of the abutting owner. In this work we commend the growing practice of State aid and we approve the efforts of the national Agricultural Department by experiments and otherwise to make the public the best methods of road construction.

Negro and His Rights.

The Republican party has been for more than fifty years the consistent friend of the American negro. It gave him freedom and citizenship. It wrote into the organic law the declarations that proclaim his civil and political rights, and it believes to-day that his noteworthy progress in intelligence, industry, and good citizenship has earned the respect and encouragement of the nation. We demand equal justice for all men, without regard to race or color; we declare once more, and without reservation, for the enforcement in letter and spirit of the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution, which were designed for the protection and advancement of the negro, and we condemn all devices that have for their real aim his disfranchisement for reasons of color alone, as unfair, un-American, and repugnant to the supreme law of the land.

Natural Resources.

We endorse the movement inaugurated by the administration for the conservation of natural resources; we approve all measures to prevent the waste of timber; we commend the work now going on for the reclamation of arid lands, and reaffirm the Republican policy of the free distribution of the available areas of the public domain to the future settler. No obligation of the future is more insistent, and none will result in greater blessings to posterity. In line with this splendid undertaking is the further duty, equally imperative, to enter upon a systematic improvement upon a large and comprehensive plan, just to all portions of the country, of the waterways, harbors, and Great Lakes, whose natural adaptability to the increasing traffic of the land is one of the greatest gifts of a benign Providence.

Army and Navy.

The Sixtieth Congress effected many commendable acts increasing the efficiency of the army and navy; making the militia of the States an integral part of the national establishment; authorizing joint maneuvers of army and militia; fortifying new naval bases and completing the construction of coaling stations; instituting a female nurse corps for naval hospitals; and ships and adding two new battle ships, ten torpedo-boat destroyers, three steam

WHAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY PROMISES, FAVORS, AND REJECTS IN ITS PLATFORM

ROOSEVELT AND HIS POLICIES—Republicanism under Roosevelt reached the highest degree of service it ever attained. Roosevelt lauded as representing the best aims and noblest purposes of his countrymen. Full and complete adherence to his policies announced.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES PLEDGED—The position of the United States as the world's richest nation pointed out, although her great natural resources are barely touched. Equal opportunity for all in the development and enjoyment of these resources is pledged.

AMERICAN INTERESTS SOUND—The safe passage of the country through the recent panic pointed out as an indication of the sound bases of the nation's commercial, industrial, and agricultural interests.

THE TARIFF—Tariff revision in a special session of Congress immediately after the inauguration of the next President declared for, on the basis of duties that will equalize the differences between the cost of production at home and abroad, with a reasonable profit to American industries.

THE CURRENCY—The party committed to the development of a permanent currency system, more elastic and adaptable than the present one.

THE TRUSTS—Amendments to the Sherman law suggested, so as to give the Federal government greater supervision and control of trusts.

RAILROAD STOCK ISSUES—Legislation to prevent the overissue of stocks by interstate carriers favored.

LIABILITY LEGISLATION—Party pledged to further railroad and government liability legislation.

LABOR LEGISLATION—Party pledged to continue the passage of beneficent labor legislation.

INJUNCTIONS—The rules of Federal court procedure regarding injunctions should be more accurately defined by statute, and no injunctions issued without notice except in cases where irreparable injury would result.

GOOD ROADS AND RURAL DELIVERY—The good roads movement generally endorsed; extension of free rural mail delivery favored.

THE COLORED RACE—Equal justice demanded for the colored race and enforcement of the constitutional amendments relating thereto. Disfranchisement condemned.

NATURAL RESOURCES—The conservation of national natural resources endorsed. Improvement of waterways regarded as imperative.

NATIONAL MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS—Continuance of policy to maintain the efficiency of the army and navy affirmed. Protection of American citizens abroad regarded as necessary. Legislation to revive merchant marine urged.

PENSIONS—Republican pension policy approved and liberal administration of pension laws declared for.

CUBA AND COLONIAL DEPENDENCIES—Hope for complete sovereignty of Cuba by Cuban people expressed. Citizenship for native Porto Ricans immediately favored.

NEW STATES—Immediate Statehood for New Mexico and Arizona favored.

LINCOLN CENTENNIAL—A general Lincoln centennial on February 12, 1909, recommended.

DEMOCRACY AND THE DEMOCRATS—Democracy declared incapable of carrying out Republican policies. Fundamental differences between the two parties pointed out. Democracy accused of trend toward socialism. Appeal to the country for support.

Colliers, and eight submarines to the strength of the navy. Although at peace with all the world and secure in the consciousness that the American people do not desire and will not provoke a war with any other country, we nevertheless declare our unalterable devotion to a policy that will keep this republic ready at all times to defend her traditional doctrines and assure her appropriate part in promoting permanent tranquility among the nations.

American Citizenship.—We reaffirm our former declarations that the civil service laws, extended, and enforced by the Republican party, shall continue to be maintained, and obeyed.

Public Health.—We commend the efforts designed to secure greater efficiency in national public health agencies and favor such legislation as will effect this purpose.

Bureau of Mines and Mining.—In the interest of the great mineral industries of our country we earnestly favor the establishment of a bureau of mines and mining.

Our Possessions.—The American government, in Republican hands, has freed Cuba, given peace and protection to Porto Rico, and the Philippines under our flag and begun the construction of the Panama Canal. The present conditions in Cuba vindicate the wisdom of maintaining between that republic and this imperishable bonds of mutual interest, and the hope is now expressed that the Cuban people will soon be ready to assume complete sovereignty over their land.

In Porto Rico the government of the United States is meeting loyal and patriotic support, order and prosperity prevail, and the well being of the people is in every respect promoted and conserved. We believe that the native inhabitants of Porto Rico should at once be collectively made citizens of the United States, and that all others properly qualified under existing laws residing in said island should have the privilege of becoming naturalized.

In the Philippines insurrection has been suppressed, law established, and life and property made secure. Education and practical experience are there advancing the capacity of the people for government, and the policies of McKinley and Roosevelt are leading the inhabitants step by step to an ever increasing measure of home rule.

Time has justified the selection of the Panama route for the great isthmian canal, and events have shown the wisdom of securing authority over the zone through which it is to be built. The work is now progressing with a rapidity far beyond expectations, and already the realization of the hopes of centuries has come within the vision of the near future.

New Mexico and Arizona.—We favor the immediate admission of the Territories of New Mexico and Arizona as separate States in the Union.

Lincoln.—February 12, 1909, will be the 100th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, an immortal spirit whose fame has brightened with the receding years and whose name stands among the first of those given to the world by the great republic. We recommend that this centennial anniversary be celebrated throughout the confines of the nation by all the people thereof, and especially by the public schools, as an exercise to stir the patriotism of the youth of the land.

Democratic Incapacity.—We call the attention of the American people to the fact that none of the great measures here advocated by the Republican party could be enacted and none of the steps forward here proposed could be taken under a Democratic administration or undone in which party responsibility is divided. The continuance of present policies, therefore, absolutely requires the continuance in power of that party which believes in them and which possesses the capacity to put them into operation.

Fundamental Differences.—Beyond all platform declarations there are fundamental differences between the Republican party and its chief opponent which make the one worthy and the other unworthy of public trust.

In history the difference between Democracy and Republicanism is that the one stood for debased currency, the other for honest currency; the one for free silver, the other for sound money; the one for free trade, the other for protection; the one for the contraction of American influence, the other for its expansion. The one has been forced to abandon every position taken on the great issues before the people, the other has held and vindicated all.

In experience the difference between Democracy and Republicanism is that one means adversity, while the other means prosperity; one means low wages, the other means high; one means doubt and debt, the other means confidence and thrift.

In principle, the difference between Democracy and Republicanism is that one stands for a wise and regulated government, the other for strength and purpose; one stands for obstruction, the other for construction; one promises, the other performs; one finds fault, the other finds work.

The present tendencies of the two parties are even more marked by inherent differences. The trend of Democracy is toward socialism, while the Republican party stands for a wise and regulated individualism. Socialism would destroy wealth, Republicanism would prevent its abuse. Socialism would give to each an equal right to take; Republicanism would give to each his share of a constantly increasing sum of possessions. In line with this tendency the Democratic party of to-day believes in government ownership, while the Republican party believes in government regulation. Ultimately Democracy would have the nation own the people, while Republicanism would have the people own the nation.

Upon this platform of principles and purposes, reaffirming our adherence to every Republican doctrine proclaimed since the birth of the party, we go before the country, asking the support not only of those who have acted with us heretofore, but of all our fellow-citizens who, regardless of past political differences, unite in the desire to maintain the policies, perpetuate the blessings, and make secure the achievements of a greater America.

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